



400 Beach Farm Circle  
Highland, MI 48356

Mail: P. O. Box 405  
Highland, MI 48357

### Board of Directors

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Mel Boomer

### Coming Events

**Trivia Night**  
Aubree's Pizzeria  
April 29, 2023

**Spring Garage Sale**  
Community Sharing  
May 20 & 21, 2023

**Golf Fundraiser**  
Beacon Hill  
June 2, 2023

# The Flame

[www.community-sharing.org](http://www.community-sharing.org)

Winter 2023

## *With Gratitude and Thanks*



What an exciting two years at Community Sharing. Thanks to our wonderful community, we raised over \$800,000 in 2021. We are so happy to open our new 10,000 sq ft building in late 2022. We are particularly proud that despite significant labor and material increases, we kept within our 2020 Budget. We were able to do this, because of over \$70,000 "in-kind" material donations from many local businesses. We estimate over 400 man hours of voluntary labor to build the office walls and complete the interior.

We have seen many fortunate breaks during the building process. On September 7th during major power outages in SE Michigan, DTE surprised us and showed up to connect power. My favorite story is, we had 70-degree weather on Oct 22nd for asphalt work. They painted the parking lot lines at 4:30 am on Oct 25 and we opened for business at 10:00am. Just so many blessings in 2022.

I like to call this phase I. After two and half years of uncertainty, Phase 2 is the challenge to provide improved services to the community. With the building and (hopefully) Covid behind us we can continue to reach out to families that have a need for food, clothing, etc. In recent days we have added an IT professional to our volunteer staff as well as developing a new Social Media team. We are looking at developing "Ambassadors" to improve our communication with each individual Huron Valley Schools. We want a renewed focus on high density residential communities and look at the needs there.

We are also excited to restart many of our fundraising events. We plan on starting out in May with a smaller version of our infamous Garage Sale.

On behalf of Community Sharing's board, staff and volunteers, thank you for a great two years.

Dave Bell, Board President

# 2023 FUNDRAISERS

## TRIVIA NIGHT



## TRIVIA NIGHT

Community Sharing's Trivia Night fundraiser has been held for 5 years but had to take a break during and after Covid. This fundraiser will be Saturday, April 29, 2023. The fundraiser will be at Aubree's Pizzeria & Grill of South Lyon, MI. This event has been attended by 200+ guests and is led by two local trivia "experts" with a variety of questions. The entire table collaborates on the answers to the trivia questions, and no one is on their own to come up with the answers. No cell phones or any other devices are allowed to help obtain the answers. Attendees can set up their own table of 8, or they can join in with another table. The trivia winner is the table with the most correct answers to the trivia questions. A 50/50 raffle and a gift basket raffle are also part of the evening. Prizes are awarded to the members of the winning table. All proceeds from this event benefit Community Sharing. Register at Community Sharing or [www.community-sharing.org](http://www.community-sharing.org)

## GOLF OUTING

Community Sharing's annual Golf Outing fundraiser is held at local golf clubs and is typically scheduled for May/June. The 2023 golf outing will be held June 2<sup>nd</sup> at Beacon Hill Golf Club in Commerce Township. Each player pays for 18 holes of golf with a cart. The game is played in a scramble format and includes a continental breakfast with a luncheon following. This event includes cash prizes for the winning team with lowest score, a 50/50 raffle, silent auction items, a "chuck-a-putt" game, and individual golf skill contests (e.g., longest drive and closest to the pin). A recent addition is a giant inflated "golf-zilla" which tests the golfer's ability to chip a golf ball into the golf-zilla's open mouth, with prizes awarded to those succeeding. Multiple-level sponsorships are available to individuals, businesses and organizations. In-kind donations can be monetary, contributions to the golfers' "goody bag" or prize donations. All proceeds from this event benefit Community Sharing.



## GARAGE SALE



Community Sharing's semi-annual garage sale has been a successful fundraiser over many years, raising funds to help fill the food pantry to feed clients in need in the community. The spring and fall sales include donations from the community of furniture, household goods, linens, books, DVD/CDs, toys, sporting equipment, plus much more. The popular "Antiques and Uniques" specialty area features many vintage and unique items. Most items for sale do not have price tags. Rather, the buyer makes an offer, which can be accepted or negotiated by the cashiers. Large items such as furniture are priced fairly. All proceeds from the garage sale benefit Community Sharing.

# Community Sharing Outreach Center *Fundraiser*

## *Huge!* Garage Sale

**NEW Dates**

**Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, Pre-Sale, 5 – 8 p.m. (\$5 admission)**

**Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

**Community Sharing Outreach Center  
400 Beach Farm Circle, Highland  
(next to Highland Library)**

For more information, please call 248-889-0347 or visit [www.csgaragesale.org](http://www.csgaragesale.org)



### A CARING PARTNERSHIP

Harbor High School is an alternative high school in Huron Valley Schools. Typical HHS students have barriers to education: physical/mental health, school attendance, academic struggles, behavioral concerns, etc. For this reason, almost all students are in need of support: academically, emotionally, or behaviorally.

To support our students, we adopted a Trauma Informed School model. We understand the challenges our students have faced or continue to face, we live, breathe, and care for every student. They are not just our students; they are our family.

We are partnered with Community Sharing to meet the needs of all of our students. We run a clothes closet, a snack pantry, and offer basic hygiene care. Without the continued support of Community Sharing our HHS families and students, many would go without.

Students are enrolled 3-times each year. Please call us at 248-676-8421 if interested.

### HURON VALLEY ADULT EDUCATION



Need your Diploma or GED? Interested in English as a second language (ESL) classes or looking to change your career path with Certified Nurse Assistant training?

Huron Valley Schools Adult Education is here to help. We are dedicated to helping adults earn their GED or diploma or pick up additional skills.

We work in partnership with Community Sharing to help provide opportunities for our adult learners. They support our students with scholarship opportunities to become Certified Nurse Assistants or to seek out college or career training.

We enroll students all throughout the year but predominantly in August and January. Please call us at 248-676-8398, Email [adult.ed@hvs.org](mailto:adult.ed@hvs.org), or check us out on Facebook.



# What's happening in the Pantry

## WHAT WE DO:

We provide food distribution for our clients every Tuesday morning from 10-1:00 and also monthly the 2nd Tuesday evening from 6-8:00 PM and 2nd Saturday morning from 10-12:00.

Upon reaching the pantry, our clients are greeted, sent to registration and a volunteer porter who helps direct them through the pantry stations with their shopping cart. With amounts based upon family size, clients can choose canned and boxed pantry goods, frozen meat, milk and eggs, fresh produce, personal care and cleaning supplies, and bread and baked dessert items. All stations are staffed by volunteers. Once the clients have finished in the pantry, their porter helps them out to their vehicle to unload all of the goods received.



## PANTRY NEWS:

The Pantry Team was very busy during Fourth quarter 2022. We worked hard to keep the Duck Lake Center pantry operating while at the same time setting up the pantry in the new building.

After moving in and reopening in October, they packed and provided over 120 Thanksgiving food bags and Turkeys. In December they provided over 100 Holiday food bags with hams or turkeys. During fourth quarter we saw an increase in the number of visits to the pantry. We are expecting a very challenging year in 2023. First of all, Michigan Health and Human Services is reporting that the extra Food Assistance funds provided during COVID, will end in February. This can mean a 50% to 75% decrease in food assistance dollars. We will be expecting an increase in the number of visitors to the pantry.



Secondly, we have seen a sharp decrease in USDA available food. Gleaners has reported a historic shortfall in donations and government sponsored food donations. This impacts pantries in their effort to keep their costs down. With this decrease and the sharp rise in wholesale food costs, Community Sharing has experienced a much higher Food expenditures in 2022. At the beginning of 2022 we were paying about \$.70 per pound of ordered food. At the end of 2022 we were paying \$.99 per pound. This 40% increase can mean more than \$400 more per pallet of food.

We are very well prepared for the anticipated increase in client visits and subsequent increase in our costs. We can do this thanks to wonderful community support and your donations. Thank you to all the schools and businesses that held local food drives in November and December. We are off to a good start in 2023 when we had a great food drive with Gleaners and Kroger and collected 41 shopping carts of food. We are excited that we can serve the Huron Valley School residents in our new building.



# Meijer Simply Give

Winter 2023





Together we can provide for those in need...

Community Sharing is proud to announce a partnership with Meijer to provide much-needed relief to local families facing food insecurity through the retailer's customer-driven hunger relief program, SIMPLY GIVE. Community Sharing will benefit from food donation cards that are purchased at the White Lake Meijer store now through April 1st.

Meijer will **double match** any SIMPLY GIVE cards purchased on Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, effectively tripling contributions made to Community Sharing.

Your \$10 donation converts to \$30 for the pantry when purchased on March 4<sup>th</sup> or March 25<sup>th</sup>!

Look for the Simply Give Cards near the checkouts





## Save the Date

When: Sunday, November 5, 2023  
1:00-4:00pm

Where: Bakers of Milford

Who: Everyone

What: Empty Bowl Fundraiser

Empty Bowls is a grassroots movement by artists and crafts people in cities and towns around the world to raise money for food related charities to care for and feed the hungry in their communities. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Diana Diesch at Community Sharing.

dianadiesch@community-sharing.org  
**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED**

## Ambassador Program

One of the goals of Community Sharing this year is to reach out into the community to inform people about who we are and what we do to help those in need.

The first phase will be to reach out to potential clients and introduce our services to them. Our Ambassadors will visit mobile home parks, apartment complexes, etc. with informational brochures.

The next phase will be to visit churches, business, etc. not to solicit donations but rather to spread the word about Community Sharing.



All of our Ambassadors are seasoned volunteers who have first-hand knowledge of the workings of our organization and are excited to fulfill our goals.



Community Sharing  
P.O. Box 405  
Highland, MI 48357

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Occupant Or

*SAVE THE DATE*

Newsletter printed by:





# **Golf Fundraiser**

**FRIDAY**  
**JUNE 2, 2023**



Beacon Hill Golf Club  
6011 Majestic Oaks Dr.  
Commerce Twp., MI

**\$125/Player**  
**Limited to 144 Golfers**

*We are available to accept your  
donations of food and garage sale  
items on...*

Monday through Thursday  
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

2nd & 4th Tuesday  
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

2nd Saturday of each month  
10 a.m. - Noon

Milford & Highland Seniors

Contact the office for special pick-up  
arrangements for your donations.